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THE BROOKLYN
Society of Vermonters.



ORGANIZATION,
MARCH 4, 1891.

THE BROOKLYN
Society of Vermonters.

RECORD
OF ITS ORGANIZATION AND DINNER,
March 4th, 1891.

Together with its Constitution, Officers,
Members and the Addresses.

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

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OFFICERS
OF THE
Brooklyn Society of Vermonters,

ELECTED MARCH 4, 1891.

President, - - - - ROBERT D. BENEDICT
Vice-President, - - - - CHARLES A. TINKER
Secretary and Treasurer, - - ROBERT J. KIMBALL

Executive Committee.

COL. N. T. SPRAGUE, *Chairman.*

ALBERT B. CHANDLER, SANFORD H. STEELE,
GEORGE B. ABBOTT, J. H. FLAGG,
AND THE
PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY, *Ex-officio.*

THE BROOKLYN SOCIETY OF VERMONTERS.

THE BROOKLYN SOCIETY OF VERMONTERS was organized on March 4, 1891, at the house of the Union League Club of Brooklyn, with a membership of 40. The day was the 100th anniversary of the admission of Vermont to the United States, and that event was celebrated by a dinner, with addresses. The formation of such a society had been first suggested at an informal meeting of a few natives of Vermont at the residence of Col. Robert J. Kimball, 436 Clinton avenue, on February 23. A committee was appointed at that meeting to consider the celebration of Vermont's centennary and the formation of a society of Vermonters residing in Brooklyn. The members of this committee were as follows:

ROBERT D. BENEDICT, FRANK H. CHANDLER,
ALBERT B. CHANDLER, SANFORD H. STEELE,
CHARLES A. TINKER, ROBERT J. KIMBALL.

This committee called a meeting at the office of Frank H. Chandler, 300 Fulton street, on February 26, sending invitations to all the natives of Vermont in the city whose names they could

obtain. The following gentlemen responded to the invitation: Sanford H. Steele, H. R. Steele, Albert B. Chandler, Frank H. Chandler, Robert J. Kimball, Charles A. Tinker, N. T. Sprague, Benjamin H. Dewey, M. A. Dewey, Omri F. Hibbard, F. S. Blinn, C. T. White, F. B. Johnson, A. R. Johnson, W. H. Cotton, J. J. Allen, Rev. T. P. Frost, James Brady, R. I. Pierson, L. K. Barnes.

Sanford H. Steele was chosen Chairman of the meeting and Robert J. Kimball, Secretary. On motion of Frank H. Chandler, it was voted to celebrate the Vermont Centennary, and a Committee of Arrangements was appointed, consisting of Col. N. T. Sprague, Chairman; Robert J. Kimball and Charles A. Tinker. It was also voted to organize a society of Vermonters in Brooklyn, and the following Committee of Organization was appointed to prepare a Constitution and By-laws for the society: Charles A. Tinker, Albert B. Chandler, and Robert J. Kimball.

As soon as this intention became known in the city the names of applicants for membership came in rapidly to the committee, and on the night of the dinner, 70 Vermonters gathered at the Union League Club. The dinner was preceded by a brief meeting for organization, at which Col. N. T. Sprague, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, was made Chairman, and Robert J. Kimball, Secretary.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That we, Vermonters here present, on this centennial anniversary of the admission of Vermont into the Union, to acknowledge our love and fidelity to her, and to perpetuate her memory to those who come after us, do form ourselves into an association to be called the "Brooklyn Society of Vermonters."

The following named persons were present and took part in the proceedings organizing the Association, to wit: George B. Abbott, Alonzo Alford, Rev. J. C. Allen, J. J. Allen, R. C. Allen, W. E. Andrews, C. G. Atwood, J. M. Babcock, L. K. Barnes, B. Lincoln Benedict, Robert D. Benedict, Thomas Bishop, James Brady, William Brinsmaid, Albert B. Chandler, Albert E. Chandler, Frank H. Chandler, Frank W. Chandler, W. H. Cotton, C. H. Cutting, Benjamin H. Dewey, M. A. Dewey, Francis M. Edgerton, Geo. Follett, Omri F. Hibbard, Charles A. Hoyt, A. T. Howard, Jesse Johnson, Brainard Kellogg, Robert J. Kimball, Wm. Eugene Kimball, Dr. Henry C. Matthews, R. W. Newhall, Hamilton Ormsbee, R. I. Pierson, Dr. W. F. Ramsdell, W. C. Spelman, Col. N. T. Sprague, Charles A. Tinker, Arthur L. Tinker, L. Titus, Henry Titus, Prescott L. Watson, G. A. White. The association duly elected its officers, whose names are printed elsewhere.

After the business meeting the company was summoned to the dining-room and seated at the table in the order indicated by the diagram on another page.

The menu card bore the Vermont coat of arms and the Vermont motto, "Freedom and Unity." The bill of fare was as follows :

M E N U.

OYSTERS.

SOUPS.

Consomme Printaniere. Cream of Celery.
Small Patties a la Princess.

FISH.

Boiled Striped Bass a la Chambord.
Potatoes.

RELEVE.

Capon Braise a l' Ancienne.
String Beans.

ENTREE.

Tenderloin of Beef a la Richelieu.
Green Peas.

Orange Ice.

ROAST.

Plover on Toast au Cresson. Lettuce Salad.

Petit Flap-Jacks a la Green Mountains.
Brattleboro Maple Syrup.

Iced Cream in Form. Assorted Cake. Fruit.
Crackers. Randolph Butter. Cheese.
Coffee.

March 4, 1891.

ADDRESS OF ROBERT D. BENEDICT.

After the dinner had been eaten, Mr. Benedict called for the attention of the guests, and spoke as follows :

GENTLEMEN AND BROTHER VERMONTERS—One hundred years ago to-day occurred the event which we, as Sons of Vermont, are gathered to-night to celebrate. We celebrate it in the way which has become appropriate for such celebrations ; first, by a moderate and cheerful feast, and then by varied speech in which we shall stir up our minds by way of remembrance, and express to each other appropriate congratulations. There are those who, listening to the tone of speech which prevails upon such occasions, are somewhat disposed to sneer and to make remarks about “mutual admiration” and “boastfulness.” Let us pay no heed to such carpers. We are children of one family who have come together, not indeed under the family roof tree, but to renew the thoughts and feelings and associations which cluster around that roof-tree, beneath which our youth was spent, and beneath which sits the mother of us all, still with all the freshness and beauty of youth upon her. Why then, should we hesitate to speak freely to each other of her many excellences and virtues and to say, “Never man had a better mother than we had?”

Vermont ! every fibre of my frame thrills as I speak her name.

“I love her hills, I love her streams,
Her blue lakes haunt my waking dreams ;
When the morning shineth
Or the day declineth,
Ever dear her memory seems.”

And so it will be as long life shall last. And when I shall have come to the end of life, I hope it may be my privilege to be laid to rest within her soil beneath the shadows of her murmuring pines, where the eyes of remembering friends may rest upon her solemn mountains, from whose peaks their thoughts may rise to those eternal verities whose steadfastness those mountains fitly symbolize.

But it is not only because of her natural scenery, the beauties of her valleys and mountains, that we love Vermont. It is because of the character of the people who have found home among those mountains.

“Two voices are there—one is of the sea,
One of the mountains, each a mighty voice ;
In each from age to age thou didst rejoice,
They were thy chosen music, Liberty.”

That voice of the mountains has sunk deep into the hearts of the liberty-loving people of Vermont. It is the proud boast of England's judiciary that one of her judges declared that the soil of England could not bear the foot of a slave. With equal pride may Vermont point to her judge before whom a proceeding was brought to recover possession of a slave, and who, skilled in the trial of causes involving land titles so frequent in a newly settled region, (in which each of the contesting parties sought to trace his title back to the grantee from the crown, who was spoken of as the original proprietor), and using the language of such causes, pierced the heart of the slavery controversy by deciding that the claimant, if he would succeed, must prove a deed from the “original proprietor,” God Almighty.

It was by reason of this love of liberty among her people, and their love for the Union, that in the great contest for liberty and the saving of the Union from destruction, Vermont, in proportion to her population, "had more of her sons killed in battle than any other Northern State, and gave to the cause of the Union more lives lost from all causes than any other State."

I have not time to point to the position of Vermont upon other vital questions of our national life. Where has there been one on which her position has been equivocal or doubtful?

In most of the contests for reforms which have succeeded, she has taken her place among the front ranks; and in the contests for reforms which are yet to come, what better order could be given to the armies of reform than that which General Sedgwick gave, "Put the Vermonters ahead! and keep the rest of the column well up."

It is not therefore only for the natural beauties of hill and valley, lake and stream, that we love Vermont. It is because she is animated by a love for freedom and progress in right things, and because she has shown by the hundred years of her history, that she can be relied upon for the right in the struggles and strifes of the future.

And it is not with a half-hearted affection that we love her. We should not be true sons of Vermont if it were. The men who founded the State were not half-hearted men. They were not merely patriotic and brave men, not merely men of clear insight and of far-reaching views. They were men of determination, who knew what they wished to

accomplish, and went forward to it with their whole hearts. An incident in the life of Ethan Allen occurs to me, one which I think is not generally known. I found it some time since in turning over a file of old newspapers (always to me an interesting occupation), and I tell it, although I must rely only on my memory for the details. It seems that some legal proceeding was pending against some relative of Ethan Allen, who had not taken as earnest a part in the cause of liberty as some others had done. In that proceeding (probably because Ethan Allen had set it on foot), this relative deemed it important to show that Ethan Allen was hostile to him. He, therefore, published in this newspaper several affidavits, among which was one in which deponent testified that, meeting Ethan Allen he had mentioned the fact of having recently seen this aforesaid relative, whereupon the said Ethan Allen (I trust you will excuse the language. It is the language of Ethan Allen, and we all know that he wasted no time in measuring his words), replied, "You saw him? Well, how was he, d—n his lukewarm soul."

That expression, gentlemen, characterizes not only the man who spoke it, but the men of Vermont. With them "lukewarm souls" found no favor. And in our affection for Vermont we are no lukewarm souls. We love her with all our hearts.

I esteem it a great compliment that I have been called to preside over this organization of the Sons of Vermont on this occasion.

For us who are Vermonters this is the last of the long line of the Centennial celebrations which

have marked in succession the various stages in that series of events which "made us a nation." It celebrates the time when Vermont first stood up as one among her sister States, no longer in solitary independence, but in that more perfect Union for the establishment of which the Constitution of the United States was established.

The 4th of March, one hundred years ago, made Vermont one of the United States, an integral part of this great Nation, and it is proper that we should at the outset pay due respect to the Nation whose life has pulsed through the veins of Vermont for the last hundred years.

I ask you, therefore, gentlemen, to rise in your places and drink with me to the health and prosperity of The President of the United States.

The guests rose and joined in the health proposed.

Mr. Benedict then said:

It is also appropriate that, having given a health to the representative of the National life, we should next pay our respects to the officer who represents the State, and I ask you to rise and join me in a health to the Governor of the State of Vermont. We should be glad if he were with us. In his absence you will be glad to hear a letter from him, which will be read by the Secretary.

The Secretary, Col. Kimball, read the following letters and telegrams:

FROM GOVERNOR PAGE.

STATE OF VERMONT,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }
HYDE PARK, VT., March 4, 1891. }

COL. R. J. KIMBALL,

No. 436 Clinton Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Dear Col. Kimball—It is especially gratifying to those of us who are left behind, to know the deep feelings of loyalty to their native State, which Vermonters are everywhere manifesting on the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of Vermont's admission to the Union.

Minneapolis, Boston, and Providence, of the larger cities, will join with Brooklyn to-night in commemorative exercises, while thousands upon thousands of Vermont's sons and daughters, scattered throughout the length and breadth of the land, will recall with deep emotions of patriotism the unblemished record their native State has made in the century which will close March 4th. That record will grow brighter and brighter as the years roll by, and may we not hope that the loyalty and devotion of Vermont's sons who have gone out from among us will increase from year to year as they rehearse the achievements of the century.

I thank you for the honor you confer by inviting me to be with you in the festivities of your banquet, which I am sure cannot be other than a most enjoyable occasion, but prior engagements will prevent my attendance.

Very cordially yours,

CARROLL S. PAGE.

FROM SECRETARY OF WAR PROCTOR.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 2, 1891. }

Dear Sir—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of February 27th, inviting me to attend the banquet to be given by the Vermonters of Brooklyn, to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the admission of Vermont to the Union, on Wednesday evening, March 4th.

I am sorry that this meeting occurs on the day which closes the session of Congress here, at which time, of course, my official obligations require me to remain on duty in Washington. It is always a pleasure and a privilege to a son of Vermont to participate in celebrating an occasion like this to do honor to his native State. Similar gatherings are to be held by Vermonters in many principal cities of the country; and those who, like myself, cannot unite with their friends in celebrating this anniversary in some manner similar to this, envy those who can.

I regret very much that the multitude of affairs which demand my attention just at this time, make it impossible for me to leave the city, and I am, therefore, unable to accept your kind invitation.

Hoping that the occasion may be an enjoyable one to all who participate, and thanking you again for the courtesy of your invitation, I am,

Yours very truly,

REDFIELD PROCTOR.

MR. R. J. KIMBALL,

No. 16 Broad Street, New York, N. Y.

FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR GRANT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 3, 1891. }

COL. N. T. SPRAGUE :

Dear Sir—Your kind invitation to be with the Sons of Vermont to-morrow evening is duly received, and answered by telegram. You know it would give me much pleasure to be present, but Congress will adjourn to-morrow, and the Secretary is going away on Monday, and there is much to do just at this time.

I promised the Vermont Veteran Association, of Boston, to meet with them to-morrow night, if I went anywhere, and I had but just telegraphed them that I could not come, when I received your telegram. I have declined similar invitations from Minneapolis, Providence, Chicago and Boston. It is very gratifying to be thus remembered, and I am sorry that I am unable to attend any of the meetings. I am satisfied you will have a pleasant and profitable time, and I will think of you and give you my benediction.

Truly yours,

L. A. GRANT. .

FROM SENATOR EDMUNDS.

SENATE CHAMBER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., February 28, 1891. }

Dear Colonel Kimball—I have yours of the 27th, and thank you very much for kindly inviting me to attend your banquet in honor of Vermont's centennial year as a member of the Union. I regret extremely that it is absolutely impossible for me to have this pleasure, as I have made all arrangements

to go South with my family on the evening on 4th of March, to be gone a month. Wishing you all every felicity, both at your banquet and at all times, I am,

Very truly yours,

GEO. F. EDMUNDS.

ROBT. J. KIMBALL, Esq.,

No. 16 Broad Street, New York.

FROM SENATOR MORRILL.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 3, 1891.

Dear Colonel Kimball—Your kind favor of the 2d inst. has been received, inviting me to be present at a banquet of the Brooklyn Vermonters, on the evening of the 4th instant, and I regret that I shall be unable to accept of the same. I feel sure that wherever a company of Vermonters assemble they are always happy.

I am too busy to write at more length. Thanking you for your attention, I am,

Very truly yours,

JUSTIN S. MORRILL.

MR. R. J. KIMBALL,

New York.

Telegrams of congratulation were read from the Sons of Vermont of Rhode Island, of Boston, from Col. Wheelock G. Veazey, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, John F. Henry and J. H. Flagg.

Mr. Benedict resumed:

Vermont is sometimes spoken of as being "the first child" of the Union. But the Act of Congress admitting her to the Union was in the

following words: "The State of Vermont having petitioned the Congress to be admitted a member of the United States * * it is hereby enacted and declared that on the 4th day of March, 1791, the said State, by the name and style of 'the State of Vermont,' shall be received and admitted into this Union, as a new and entire member of the United States of America."

This language is more appropriate to the figure of marriage than to that of birth. But, by whatever figure it may be described, I will ask our friend, Albert B. Chandler, to tell us something of the circumstances of the event.

ALBERT B. CHANDLER'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Chandler said:

No doubt you are all familiar with the main features connected with the early history of our beloved Green Mountain State. But it seems fitting at this time to review the subject very briefly, and there are one or two points in particular to which I invite your attention. I have only recently been impressed with a realizing sense of the comparative newness of the conditions existing in our native State, which during my youth, and long subsequently, I was accustomed to think of as having always existed. For more than a hundred years after the landing of the Mayflower, on the rocky coast of Massachusetts, the lovely region which we know as Vermont was in possession of its Indian owners, although very sparsely occupied, so far as we know, even by them. It is true that the beautiful Lake

Champlain had been discovered by the French explorer, by whose name it is now known, in 1608—within a year of the time that Hendrick Hudson first sailed up the grand harbor which is now the pride of our twin cities, and discovered the river which bears his name. But no real settlement was made within the borders of Vermont by the white race until 1724, when Fort Dummer was built on the Connecticut river not far from the present site of Brattleboro, this region being then regarded as a part of Massachusetts. And it was nearly half a century later than this before any considerable progress had been made in the permanent settlement of the hills and valleys which we love so well. The first settlers came chiefly from Eastern Massachusetts and Connecticut, where for more than a century there had been growing colonies and established government. In these days, when vast territories like Dakota, Montana and Washington are reclaimed from the wilderness and from savagery, and made populous, prosperous and full-fledged States within a period of hardly more than a dozen years, notwithstanding their remoteness from the civilization out of which their people have been drawn, does it not seem strange that so goodly a land, within a hundred or two of miles from the long established homes of the ancestors of those who went to take possession of it, should have remained for so many, many years, unoccupied, and almost unknown? Of course the difference is clear when we consider the ox team—the mud and corduroy—then supplying the only means of transportation—and the locomotive, with its roadway of steel, as in use to day.

The political history of Vermont, is most remarkable, and very different from that of any other member of the union of States comprising our great Republic. Its real development began about the year 1760. Between that date and 1768, 138 townships had been granted within the present limits of the State, by Governor Wentworth of New Hampshire, who claimed jurisdiction and fee of the soil by virtue of the New Hampshire charter. In December, 1763, the Governor of New York issued a proclamation claiming the territory under the grants from Charles II. to the Duke of York, and ordering the Sheriff to make returns of the names of all settlers west of the Connecticut river under titles derived from New Hampshire. Governor Wentworth issued a counter proclamation in March, 1774, declaring the claims of New York obsolete, and maintaining the jurisdiction of New Hampshire. New York appealed to King George, who granted that colony jurisdiction eastward as far as the Connecticut river. The New York Government then attempted to dispossess the settlers from their lands. This attempt was met with vigorous and organized resistance. Governor Tryon of New York, in 1774, issued a formal command requiring Ethan Allen, Seth Warner, Remember Baker and five others to surrender themselves within thirty days, under pain of conviction of felony and punishment by death, without benefit of clergy, and offered a bounty of one hundred and fifty pounds for the capture of Allen, and fifty pounds for each of the others. The Vermont leaders responded by offering a reward for the apprehension of the Attorney-General of New

York. What would have been the result of this controversy if the war with England had not occurred to demand the attention of New York, New Hampshire and all the other colonies, nobody can conjecture. The behavior of the leading Vermonters in the circumstances next occurring was manly, statesmen-like and patriotic to a degree which excites our admiration and our gratitude for such ancestry. They promptly petitioned the Provincial Congress in session at Philadelphia, for admission into the newly formed confederacy of States. New York, still cherishing the hope that it might secure the territory to itself, opposed, and their petition was withdrawn.

On the 17th of January, 1777, these wise and determined men, supported by their brave and devoted followers, the "Green Mountain boys," declared their independence, and formally "resolved that the territory known as The New Hampshire Grants should be thenceforth known and distinguished by the name of New Connecticut." But, in June of that year the appropriate name of Vermont was adopted, having been suggested by Dr. Thomas Young, of Philadelphia, who was an intimate friend of Ethan Allen from his boyhood, the name being a contraction of the French name of the Green Mountains.

In July, 1777, an application was again made to the Continental Congress for the admission of Vermont to the Confederacy. Congress hesitated and temporized, and the people became indignant. British generals took advantage of this condition of affairs and endeavored to induce the Vermonters to declare

their allegiance to Great Britain; but the tact and genuine statesmanship of Ira Allen, Thomas Chittenden and others, as well as the courage and determination of Ethan Allen and his noble followers, preserved the little principality in safety and in honor, to act an important and exceedingly helpful part in the Revolutionary struggle, and finally, after fourteen years of independence of all the world, to be received into the Union, just one hundred years ago this day, as the very first addition to the thirteen original States. I am able to present to you a copy, made a few days ago, from the original Congressional records, showing that on the 9th of February, 1791, a message from the President of the United States informed the House of Representatives that he had received documents expressing the consent of the Legislatures of New York and the Territory of Vermont that the said Territory be admitted as a distinct member of the Union. On the 12th of February a message from the Senate informed the House that they had passed a bill for the admission of the State of Vermont into the Union. On the 17th of February Mr. Sedgwick, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, presented a bill giving effect to the laws of the United States within the State of Vermont, which was read twice and committed. On the 19th the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the bill giving effect to the laws of the United States within the State of Vermont. The Committee, after some time, rose and reported the bill to the House, with an amendment, which, being agreed to, the bill was ordered

to be engrossed for a third reading. The House then went into a Committee of the Whole on the bill regulating the number of representatives to be chosen by the States of Kentucky and Vermont. The Committee reporting the bill to the House without amendment, on motion, it passed to its third reading.

Mr. Chandler then read transcripts from the records of the Senate and House of Representatives of March 4th, 1791, reciting the passage of the act which admitted Vermont to the Union, and the message of President Washington convening the Senate in special session in the Senate chamber, in Philadelphia, on that day, and nominating Nathaniel Chipman to be the first judge of the United States Court in that State; Stephen Jacobs, to be attorney for the United States in the district of Vermont; Lewis R. Morris, to be marshal of the district of Vermont; and Stephen Keyes, to be collector of the port of Alburgh.

Mr. Chandler concluded:

It is but just to state that the removal of the objections of New York to the admission of Vermont into the Union as a separate State, was not obtained until Vermont had consented, for the sake of peace and harmony, and for the security of its citizens in the possession of the lands which they had purchased, to the payment of thirty thousand dollars to the State of New York.

The subsequent history of Vermont has been such as might have been expected from its honorable

birth and its sturdy growth up to the period of its statehood; and its record in the war of the rebellion, from the firing of the first gun at Sumter until the close of that great conflict, shows that it brought one in ten of its entire population into the field, and that the conduct of its officers and soldiers throughout was no less creditable than that of their ancestry during the war of the revolution.

Its civil government may justly said to have been, from the first, based upon principles of absolute equal rights before the law, and to have been so carried out in practice in an eminent degree. It has been, in fact, as well as in theory, "a government of the people, by the people, and for the people." Its citizens are best governed, largely because they are least governed, of any under the sun, while its freedom from political corruption, in its legislature, its courts, and among its public officers, from the highest to the lowest, affords an example which, if successfully emulated by all our States and by our national government, would bring us almost within sight of the millennial day.

At the conclusion of Mr. Chandler's remarks Mr. Benedict resumed:

GENTLEMEN—Our next sentiment is, "Vermont one hundred years old."

It would not be easy for any one to do full justice to that subject. Who could fitly portray for us what Vermont has been during that hundred years? Who could picture for us all the heights and depths, the heights of prosperity and patriotism, the depths of deprivation and toil

which have been the varied portion of her people? Who could portray for us the beauties of Vermont herself, from Canada to the Massachusetts line, and from the top of Mansfield Mountain to the Connecticut River and Lake Champlain? The man who would do that must needs have a "pencil touched with frost and fire."

The Committee of Arrangements have done what they could. They have asked Mr. Frost to speak to us on the subject, and I think you will find that he will furnish the fire.

I have the pleasure of introducing to you Rev. T. P. Frost, of the Summerfield Methodist Church.

REV. T. P. FROST'S ADDRESS.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GREEN MOUNTAIN BOYS—The simple statement that I regard it an honor to speak in this place to-night, would feebly express my feelings. I only wish that I were able to do the occasion justice. I would rather be here than to have been with Ethan Allen at Ticonderoga. This is a safer place, and a greater age, and we are partakers of more sumptuous fare than that spread before the men whose deeds make it possible for us to celebrate this day. For these, and other reasons, we are glad that we did not live an hundred years ago. While General Burgoyne was making his summer excursion through Lake Champlain with the purpose of cutting off New England from the West and South, and thus bringing the conquest of His Majesty's rebellious colonists in America to a speedy

termination, he wrote a letter to a friend bearing date August 20, 1777. In that letter were these words, "The Hampshire Grants in particular, a country unpeopled and almost unknown in the last war, now abounds in the most active and most rebellious race on the continent, and hangs like a gathering storm on my left." With the change of a single word we can adopt unanimously this sentiment of the ill-fated Briton. We freely concede that Vermonters were then, have since been, and to-day are "the most active and *courageous* race on the continent." The gentleman who preceded me has graphically pictured the situation of the new State after its declaration of independence in January, 1777. For fourteen years Vermont was an independent republic. It was only by great skill in diplomacy that the leaders of the Green Mountain Boys maintained that position against all foes. And there are autograph letters and other documents on file in the Canadian archives at Ottawa, which conclusively show that if George Washington and his fellow patriots had suffered Ethan Allen and his friends to have their way, they would have annexed to Vermont all the territory between Lake Champlain and the North Pole, brought it into the Union with Vermont, and thus would have settled forever the problem of Canadian annexation one hundred years ago to-day. If this is not a correct interpretation of history the distinguished gentleman on my right, who will soon address you, will give you the unadulterated facts. Be this as it may, Vermont was subjected to a hard discipline during the first fourteen years of her existence. And yet dis-

cipline develops tough fiber. It is hard discipline for the young oak which stands in the lone exposure of the open plain to be buffeted by the winter's blasts. But if it endures the ordeal, it roots deeper, spreads wider, knits closer and stands stronger than the graceful sapling protected by the forest. So it is a cause of rejoicing to us who look backward an hundred years that the young State was not enervated by patronage, but forced to stand alone and battle with a tempest of harassments. That discipline made the men of the time scorn privation, laugh at danger, and exult in their independence. They regarded themselves as kings of the Hampshire Grants, free as the mountain air they breathed. And we are happy to congratulate ourselves that the discipline which ennobled them has exerted a salutary influence upon the character of their offspring down to the fourth generation. The events of Vermont's infancy have had much to do with the moulding of a century of her history. She has done well her work at home. In her legislation she has been the soul of integrity. She never consummated a scheme of legalized robbery. She has never held a slave nor countenanced slavery. She has led the van in the boldest of reforms. Upon her acres the poor man has ever been welcome to a home of comfort, if not of luxury, and upon her bosom the fugitive from any oppression has always found an asylum of rest and safety. She has also done well her work in national councils. In national conventions, although her representation has been small, her voice has been respected. In Congress she has never been weak, but always

among the strongest. No Vermonter in all these years has had cause to blush for the position held by his State, either in the House or the Senate of the United States, and this country could not well afford to have missed some of the work done by Vermonters in Washington. Nor could the nation span the results of their heroic work upon the battle fields of the republic.

Some of the sister States have been disposed to poke fun at Vermont in a good-natured way, because she is small and her family increases no faster. True, the State is not large, but she furnishes some large opportunities to her people. I understand that according to the findings of the census of 1890 there is no other State in the Union in which the average man owns so much value in live stock, or the average cow produces so much butter, or the average agriculturist has so much hay in his barn with so little hayseed in his hair, as in Vermont. The *Brattleboro Phoenix* has recently printed the following, among other results, reached by comparing certain available statistics of the census :

Vermont leads thirty-seven States in the average value of all farm productions to each person engaged in agriculture.

Vermont produces more than four times as much butter to each person engaged in agriculture as the average to each such person in the United States.

The average product of cheese to each farm is greater than in any other State excepting New York.

The average number of milch cows to a farm is greater than in any other State.

The hay crop of Vermont averages more to each person engaged in agriculture than the hay crop of any other State.

Vermont has live stock averaging in value \$110 more to each person engaged in agriculture than the corresponding average value of live stock in the United States.

Vermont leads thirty-two States in the average value of live stock to a farm.

The average annual product of maple sugar to each farm in Vermont is nearly seven times as much as the average to each farm in New York. Nearly two-thirds of all the maple sugar produced in the United States is made in Vermont and New York.

In the yield of corn, potatoes and other crops per acre, Vermont generally stands at or near the head of the list of States. But two States had a larger yield of potatoes per acre, according to the annual crop report of the department of agriculture for 1890. For the same year the yield of wheat per acre was larger in Vermont than in any other State east of the Mississippi. The yield of buckwheat per acre exceeded the yield per acre in Vermont in only one State. By the tenth census only two States had a larger yield of oats per acre than Vermont; only three States a larger yield of corn per acre, and the yield per acre of almost every crop cultivated in the State was far above the average per acre in the United States. Vermont has more than once stood at the head of the States in the yield of corn per acre.

Vermont leads thirty-six States in the average value of forest products to each farm, not including maple sugar as one of these products, and not including the product of timber lands not belonging to farms.

It appears from these facts that Vermont must be one of the best localities of the world for farmers. And yet the number of sons and daughters in the old homestead has increased but little for twenty years.

I think the first report of the census of this year showed a decrease of eighty-two persons in the population of the State during the decade. I could not account for it. I knew that Secretary Proctor and General Veazey had gone to Washington, and that an humble individual, whom modesty forbids me to name, had moved to Brooklyn meantime, but where the seventy-nine others had gone to was more than I could imagine. According to the latest report it is not necessary to account for them, as there has been a little increase in the population after all. But the reason for the tardiness of increase in population is easily found. It is not that the State gives birth to so few children, but because she sends so many out to make other families respectable. In proof of this statement I quote from another source :

“The census of 1880 gives the number of natives of Vermont living in other States and territories as 176,000. Thus it will be seen that in 1880 more than forty-two per cent. of all living Vermonters resided in other parts of the country ; therefore, the natives of Vermont, with their children, living outside of the State undoubtedly are more in number than the present population at home. It is doubtful whether any other State in the Union can show such an array of native born citizens who have occupied high positions in the public service within a single decade since the foundation of the government. Vermont has furnished one President, three Vice-Presidents, two Presidents *pro tem.* of the Senate, three cabinet officers, ten ministers plenipotentiary to foreign countries, eight United States consuls at foreign stations, eight United States court judges and one surgeon-general of the United States. And at present Vice-President L. P. Morton ; the Secre-

tary of War, Redfield Proctor; the Assistant Secretary of War, General L. A. Grant; the grand commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, W. G. Veazey, are all Vermonters; and our two senators, Justin S. Morrill and George F. Edmunds, are the peers of them all. Few, if any, other States in the Union have contributed so largely to the representation of other States in Congress as Vermont. The rolls of the Senate and the House of Representatives since 1840 contain the names of ten senators and sixty-two members, representing other States, who were natives of Vermont."

Thus Vermont is continually sending out her children to bless other regions. Wherever Vermonters have gone (and they have gone everywhere between the frigid zones) they have made their mark. Whenever I rise with the wings of fancy to survey their achievements in the world-wide field, I become exultant. Were it not for a single fact I might on these occasions mount so high as to touch heaven's cerulean dome. But that fact always checks my flight, and reminds me of the well-known advice of the old philosopher to the young orator, namely—that he would do well to pluck a few feathers from the wings of his imagination and stick them in the tail of his judgment. When I rise to the contemplation of Vermonters' operations outside their State, Utah greets my vision, and I am confronted with the chilling recollection that Brigham Young was born in Vermont. To be sure he made a mark, but it was ugly and discreditable. And yet we are able to find a few crumbs of consolation to help us in this difficulty. We do not forget that the law passed by the National

Congress which gave Mormon polygamy its death blow bears a Vermonter's name. Again we reflect that Brigham Young was born in the town of Whitingham, very near the Massachusetts line, where breezes from the waste places of the old Bay State are borne up into the fastnesses of the Green Mountains. He must have breathed much Massachusetts air. Perhaps he was nourished from a Massachusetts dairy, and if so, that might account for some of his waywardness. This is not said because of any ill-feeling toward our sister State, or with any desire to tarnish her fair fame, simply because it is imperative that at such a time as this we find relief from an unsavory fact at the expense of somebody. Furthermore, we are able to console ourselves with the thought that had it not been for the prestige of being a Vermonter, the Mormon leader could not have persuaded half as many women to marry him. We treat the case as a conspicuous illustration of falling from grace. Vermonters have sometimes done it. But most of the sons and daughters sent out by the State have made an honorable record. Call the roll of Vermonters in any State of the Union and a host will respond to your call—not a regiment of knaves and tatterdemalions coming up from the slums to put you to shame, but an assemblage of citizens influential and honored.

We feel it scarcely possible to exaggerate in sounding the praises of our native State. History from the beginning presents its peoples of renown. The sages of Athens, the heroes of Sparta, the Swiss and Polish patriots, their deeds are immortal-

ized ; but we blush not when we turn from ancient story to our own State of modern time. When we retrace the record of her judiciary from those who are trusted to-day back to a Robinson, a Chipman and their contemporaries ; when we retrace the roll of her statesmen from an Edmunds, a Morrill, a Phelps, and all other honored men who serve us now back to our Allens, Warners, Bakers and Chittendens, whose dust hallows our hillsides ; and when we retrace the story of her true sovereigns, the common people, from this night backward an hundred years to the few thousands of brave men and women who held the independent State between the blue Adirondacks in the West and the White Mountains in the East, we are not ashamed to place the Vermonters by the side of any other people of history. The past is crowned with honor. What the future shall be, we do not know. There are conflicts before us. Enemies are covertly and villainously seeking to undermine the pillars of righteous government, destroy the beneficence of free institutions, and violate the sanctity of Christian homes. But whatever the conflicts or their issue may be, we trust that the last State flag to be struck before any black ensign of unrighteousness, will be the banner which bears upon its folds the pictured emblem of peace, and those two words so dear to every Christian and patriot heart, FREEDOM and UNITY. God bless our native State ! God grant that in the ages to come her sons and daughters yet unborn may guard her liberties and her fame with no less vigilant care than have her children of a century gone.

In introducing the next speaker Mr. Benedict said: We who are collected here, although our earlier years were spent among the hills and valleys of Vermont, are men of the city, who feel the burden and stress of city life. That burden it is which has led to the habit of the summer exodus, which sends our city people to seek health and rest in the country among the woods and fields. We are fortunate that we, in the pursuit of our summer recreation, can betake ourselves so easily to Vermont, where we may not only enjoy the beauties of her mountains and her streams, but may revive our spirits by bringing back again the associations of our early days, and treading the paths which were once familiar to our youthful feet.

But even others, though not Vermonters, must recognize the truth of the next sentiment which I give you.

“Vermont—A Paradise for Summer Visitors.”

And for a response to this sentiment I call upon one who is not of Vermont origin but from her neighbor on the north, our friend Hon. Erastus Wiman.

ERASTUS WIMAN'S SPEECH.

Erastus Wiman spoke substantially as follows:

A foreigner, and especially a Britisher, enjoys a view widely different than that of the native American, of the progress and conditions prevailing in the United States. A Vermonter, especially, is “to the manner born,” and looks upon his State with an affec-

tion which covers its defects, and hardly permits him to see its peculiarities. A foreigner approaches the investigation of conditions that prevail here in an observant and more or less critical condition of mind, and if he is thoroughly imbued with the advantages, glories and surroundings of such a commonwealth as Vermont, his appreciation, and his sense of completeness are at once advantageous and satisfied. Of all the commonwealths that make up the vast constellation that on this continent so illumine the world, Vermont is one of the most interesting, as it is one of the most attractive. This is so, because of the peculiarity of her location; her clean cut history; her extreme attractiveness, and, above all, for the hearty love of her off-spring. The present group of Vermonters is an indication, that with little notice and no particular effort, such a delightful assemblage comes together to do her honor. Go where you will over the broad continent, Vermonters will be found; and always and every time with a hearty love for the place that gave them birth; and, what is more, they will always be found thrifty, progressive, honest and uniformly successful. A Britisher who looks upon Vermont sees all the advantages which she possesses, and as she forms so important a link between forty per cent. of the British Empire in the North, and the great aggregation of English speaking people on the South, there is an attractiveness about her that, next to the people of Vermont themselves, extorts admiration and respect. It was, perhaps, a great mistake that Ethan Allen was not successful in capturing Canada, as he so ardently desired, and making it a part of Vermont. Had he done so, and brought

in forty per cent. of the British Empire into the tight and little State whose glory we celebrate, he who speaks to you to-night would have been a Vermonter, and would have gloried in the appellation.

It has been said that the best crop that Vermont had was her summer visitors. Those who go there, and get all that Vermont bestows, never cease to extol her virtues. Her summer visitors, too, are largely made up of her own sons, and these, coming from abroad, with a thrift and success which they have achieved, make, indeed, a splendid group, and yield a large return for the largess of her generous hospitality. In return for this, there is no place in the world that bestows purer health, that imparts purer air, that restores the nervous force, and lays the basis for greater achievements, than do the health-giving properties that abound in the mountains and lakes of Vermont. The attractions of Vermont are not only, however, to her own sons—they are beginning to be appreciated by all others. No other place is so near great aggregations of humanity, is so accessible, and possesses the same attractions. The variety of lake, mountain, hill and dale exceeds that of any other State in the Union. Especially is this so of the excellency of her roads to numerous mountain resorts, and of the attractiveness and beauty of the scenery, which render them so delightful. The Green Mountain range, which runs the entire length of the State, possesses a variety and a free prospect unequaled in the world; valley and mountain top, hill and dale, rival each other in their attractiveness of beauty; such piles upon piles as Mount Mansfield, Camel's Hump, Ascutney Mountain, Equinox, Killington Peak,

and Mount Anthony, are all pinnacles of pleasure, not only for the loving Vermonter, but for all those who are tired and weary, who under the pressure of the winter's work in town and city have become eager to commune with Nature, and when recreation is the necessity of the hour. It is doubtful, if there is, anywhere in the world, a group of mountains so accessible, so charming, and from which such an infinite variety of views can be had, as from this catalogue of elevations, this sea of mountains. But in vivid contrast with her mountain scenery, her lakes are famous. Who would believe that in this tight little State there are no less than three hundred and seventy-three lakes and ponds? True, they are not all great stretches of water like Lake Champlain and Lake Memphremagog; but such placid sheets of water as each Vermonter will recall, nestling in the valleys, beneath the mountains, thrilling with delight him who has the good fortune to view them. And what a splendid stretch is this Lake Champlain! Have you ever realized that it has no less than two hundred miles of shore line, including the main land and the islands? What more delightful than its placid waters for boating, fishing, and bathing; its good fishing almost everywhere; its numerous hotels, so easy to be got at, and so delightful when one is there! New York, Brooklyn, Boston, Philadelphia, and other great aggregations, have, in these lovely sheets of water, a health-giving resource difficult to over-estimate. As to Lake Memphremagog, it is a question whether there is anything in this world prettier. Certainly nothing in Switzerland, which has called forth the admiration of millions, can excel the beauty

of this lovely sheet of water, with shores so verdant, bays so beautiful, coasts so rock-bound, and islands so forest-clad. What in nature could excel the attractiveness of this paradise? If you realize that it is one hundred and twenty miles long, and ten miles wide, you see that it is, at once, an ideal spot for the yachtsman, the sportsman, and the seeker for health. The growth of the leisure class is very great. The success in life of the generation that now is, means that in the generation that is to come there will be an enormous class who will need just such places as these lakes in which to spend their summers. And it is a blessed thing that it is so. Where the change is so easy, where it is so complete and vital, it is a beneficence that Vermont possesses all this attractiveness. Vermont will, therefore, constantly reap her best crop from the cities of the East and the West, because these great accumulations of cities make certain the demand for the enjoyment that such scenes afford. She can well afford to treat with liberality, as she always has with hospitality, those who come within her borders.

The speaker said he recalled with infinite pleasure a ten days' visit which he had made to the State, under the guidance of that excellent Vermonter, Col. Robert J. Kimball, who was mainly instrumental in bringing the company together to-night; who had taken a group of Canadian friends through these beautiful scenes, the memory of which would live as long as the guests lived.

But there is another class of visitors to Vermont that in a certain sense, the speaker said, he represented, viz: the large additions to the population of

that State from Canada. While the good crop of summer visitors comes from the East, South and West, and all are most heartily welcomed, there was another steady trend of French Canadians from the North, whose business in Vermont was just as essential, and who were just as profitable as visitors from other regions. The strange economic changes which Vermont had gone through, in the abandonment of her farms, and in the decreasing agricultural output, were a most interesting study to her children. The gradual acquirement, by the Irish laborer, of some of the best producing properties in the State had made some progress, but it remained for the French Canadian to take permanent possession. Like the invasion from the North in the time of the Roman Empire, from this direction comes a new element that will in time work a wonderful revolution in this the most Yankee of States. The French Canadians, to-day, are the most picturesque nation on the continent. They are, at the same time, among the most thrifty, the most industrious, and the most contented. The exodus of the French Canadian into a State needing just such help as Vermont, will certainly be fruitful of the best consequences. The abandoned farms will gradually be taken up, and in the villages the Canadian will displace the German and the Irishman, as in New England these have displaced the workmen in the manufactories. The best test of the growth of the French Canadian in New England is found in the fact that at the new stations of the railways the dual language is found to be necessary, and that the legends in and around the stations are found in French as well as English.

Vermont may view with complacency the growth of this class, because they will contribute vastly to her riches. The Vermonters of the early day have disappeared; the Irishman that succeeded them is stepping aside in the steady course of assimilation which is going on in this country; but the French Canadian comes in his place, and with a distinctive language, a distinctive religion, and with characteristics peculiar to himself, will occupy a place in the future of great importance on this continent. One thing will give him prominence more than anything else, and that is the marvelous fecundity which the French Canadians have exhibited. The census figures show that in the last ten years there has been little or no increase in Vermont. The decade that we are now entering will tell a different story, and unless the blight in New England, which has hitherto prevented growth in population, should intervene, the results of the next census will be vastly different. The fecundity of the French Canadian is shown by the estimate of Premier Mercier, who states that had the United States increased with the same rapidity as French Canada, since the cession of 1770, the population of the United States to-day would have been one hundred millions, instead of sixty-four millions. With a constant increase in numbers, with industry, economy and contentment, a basis will be laid by the French Canadian among the working people of Vermont, that will contribute largely to her progress and glory.

A great change impends in the economic conditions that prevail in the United States. The cities are filling up fast, and the growth of consumptive

demand for food products far exceeds the increase in their production. The rush to the West is checked, and immigration is setting in from the Rocky Mountains and to the East. The increased necessity for closer cultivation will make States like Vermont assume a new phase, and on her hillsides and in her valleys will in time develop a condition of cultivation similar to that which prevails in the densely populated portions of France, Belgium, and especially Switzerland. The high price of produce, the increased cost of living, the lessened number of producers in the country as compared with consumers in the cities and towns, all point in the direction of an increase of agricultural effort in the Eastern States of very great promise. No better class to accomplish this purpose can be found than the French Canadians; no better field for operations than Vermont; and no better market than that which is offered by the great aggregations of the cities of the sea, in which Brooklyn forms so distinguished a part. Thus a new future for Vermont opens up. In a hundred years she has grown enormously, and a hundred years has afforded opportunity to illustrate, all over the world, the greatness of her sons; but prosperity yet awaits her, in this exodus from the North, of very great importance.

Mr. Wiman said that he could not resume his seat without paying tribute to the public worth of the representatives of Vermont in the politics of the country. He recalled with very great pleasure the good services rendered by Mr. Phelps, the late Minister to England—the splendid administration which was being given to the War Department by Secretary

Proctor,—the long and honored period of services by Senator Morrill, and, especially, the high position as a statesman and economist, so worthily attained by Senator Edmunds.

Mr. Benedict, in introducing the next speaker, said :

GENTLEMEN—We had hoped to have with us our friend Rev. A. J. Hough, the chaplain of the House, but he has been prevented from attending. He has, however, sent us a poem prepared for the occasion, which will now be read to you by Prof. Brainerd Kellogg, of the Polytechnic Institute.

A GREEN MOUNTAIN SONG.

BY REV. ALFRED J. HOUGH, Montpelier, Vt.

Here's a song of our green mountains,
 Fair, and loved and honored State,
 Of her valleys and her fountains,
 And her sons who made her great.
 Bright will shine her deeds in story,
 Ever more her fame will ring,
 Covered is her flag with glory,
 And her praises will we sing.

Burgoyne met his first disaster
 At her hands, and stood bereft
 Of all hope, while the Vermonters
 Hung, "a dark cloud on his left."
 Scorning foes, and courting dangers,
 Ready both to do and dare,

Dashed the brave Green Mountain Rangers
 Suddenly upon his rear.
 Bennington reveals the courage
 Our Green Mountain Boys display,
 Where they won from foreign soldiers
 Two pitched battles in one day.

At the fort Ticonderoga, ere Vermont
 Became a State,
 Glowed the passion of the spirit
 That has made her strong and great.
 By the Continental Congress, in the
 Great Jehovah's name,
 Ethan Allen there demanded swift
 Surrender, and it came.
 Independent in her bearing, she is not
 Subdued or bought,
 As New York can well remember,
 And New Hampshire, when they sought
 In the stormy past to stamp her
 With the honored names they bore.
 Now they glory in her freedom, and
 She loves them more and more

Since her advent to the Union,
 Just a hundred years ago,
 See her history, it is lying, stainless
 As her driven snow.
 Never slave was born within her,
 Never fugitive was spurned
 In the dark days from her borders
 And to slavery returned.

When one sought a slave's surrender,
 This decisive answer came :
 "Your demand must lie unhonored,
 For God has a prior claim."
 Freedom's soul is in the sighing
 Of her pines o'er mountains green,

And the smile of peace is lying
 On her vales that sweep between.
 Soft the skies that bend above her,
 Dear the homes that round her cling.
 Old Vermont we love, we love her,
 And her praises will we sing.

Small she is, a bird can cross her
 Without resting, in its flight,
 But she has a compensation in
 The grandeur of her height
 Standing up amidst the nation,
 As once stood the kingly Saul,
 In the presence of the people, head
 And shoulders over all.
 Greece was small, and so was Britain,
 But they rose to sovereign sway,
 As Vermont has slowly risen to
 The place she holds to-day.

Larger States may turn to hail her
 As she rounds her hundredth year,
 But for purity and honor she is
 Still without a peer.
 And this sweet assurance cheers her,
 That her sons and daughters stand,
 Not the least among the noblest in
 Those States all through the land.
 Where true merit is demanded,
 Where integrity is crowned,
 Where truth conquers, single-handed,
 There Vermont is always found.

To the Cabinet she enters, and
 Would place her candidate
 In the first seat of the nation
 Were she but a doubtful State.
 In the Senate she has spoken, still
 Is speaking, and her word,

Calm, majestic, full of wisdom,
 Carries weight whenever heard.
 On the bench and in the market
 Pure as flame her actions glow,
 And what battle-field beheld her
 Turn her back upon the foe?

For the nation knows that ever
 In the day of blood and tears
 She can count upon the valor of
 Her hardy Mountaineers;
 That in answer to the bugle, forth
 From mountain and from glen
 Will be marching to the battle fifty
 Thousand armed men.
 As they marched—well, all men
 Know it, for this fact in history shines,
 That Vermont is good at plowing
 Stony lands and rebel lines."
 Sound the bugle, she will hear it,
 And awake to mighty deeds.
 Lift the banner, she will cheer it,
 And then follow where it leads.

It's the best State in the Union
 For the cure of that distress
 Which a sight of people die of,
 Known as chronic laziness.
 For her summer is too fleeting for
 A man to sit at ease,
 And her winter such a wild one
 That he's bound to work or freeze.
 Stamped upon her vales and mountains,
 Clearly seen by every eye,
 Are these words of solemn import—
 You must either dig or die.

Was there ever breathed from organ,
 Or rehearsed in poet's lines,

Any music like the sighing of
 The winds among her pines?
 Any strain by spirit chanted
 Through a night of happy dreams,
 That surpassed the measures woven
 By the flowing of her streams?
 There's the spirit of contentment
 In the lowing of her herds,
 There's a thrill of heavenly rapture
 In the singing of her birds,
 And sublime as shout of victors,
 When their foes, defeated, fly,
 Is the answer of her mountains
 To the thunders of the sky.

Were there ever laid on canvas
 For the love of fame or gold,
 Hues like those which clothe her
 Maples when the year is growing old?
 Softer lights and richer shadows float
 Before her children's eyes
 Than have swept the wolds and waters
 Underneath Italian skies.
 Who shall paint her mountains rising
 Up like towers to greet the sun?
 Or the streams that from their summits
 To their bases leap and run?
 Who shall tell the strange enchantment
 Of her resurrection hours,
 When the springtide rises o'er her
 Changing snowdrifts into flowers?
 When the woods all bare at sunset
 Greet the morrow's tender dawn,
 Like a troop of pleasure seekers
 With their summer garments on?
 Angels drifting to her valleys, ere
 Her Indian summer dies,
 Might still dream that they were
 Standing in the midst of Paradise.

Horses? well, trot out that Morgan,
 Hitch her up, and clear the way.
 See that gait? She'll keep it steady
 Through the longest summer day,
 Swing a buggy o'er the mountains,
 Reins drawn tight or lying slack,
 Turn at nightfall to the stables,
 Not a wet hair on her back.
 Little, is she? well, each finely moulded,
 Supple, nervous limb
 Is just like the State that raised'
 Her, crowded full of go and vim.
 And its safe to say for traveling
 Over those delightful hills,
 Nothing better than the Morgan
 Ever stood between two fills.

Maple Sugar? She supplies it, for
 The east and western home,
 Sweeter than the nectar hidden
 In the purest honeycomb.
 Oh, the tinkle of the dropping
 Of the sap into the pails,
 Was there ever such fantastic
 Music borne upon the gales?
 Was there ever sight more jolly
 Seen by mortals here below,
 Than a group of lads and lasses
 Eating sugar upon snow?

There's her butter! Just
 Look at it! Yellow as her golden rod!
 Colored? Yes, with colors Nature
 Mixed up with her virgin sod!
 Bring that Jersey! Milk a pail full,
 And the cream at once will rise
 To the surface, rich and yellow,
 While you look, before your eyes.

Then the women are such marvels,
 Made of such superior parts,
 That the butter when they touch it
 Takes the flavor of their hearts.
 Every time they turn it over, knead
 It up or toss it round,
 Something seems to make it worth
 Another cent or two a pound.
 See it ready for the market, wrapped
 In snow-white linen bands,
 And you'll say that it was moulded
 By the daintiest of hands.

At the Century's shining portal fair
 Vermont is standing now,
 There is grace in all her moulding,
 There is glory on her brow.
 The aromas of the forest, from her
 Flowing garments rise,
 Clear as lakes becalmed in sunlight is
 The shining of her eyes.
 She extends a maple garland in
 Her right hand, strong and fair,
 As a sign of salutation to her children
 Everywhere,
 And they rise responsive round her, and
 The tender symbol heed;
 With their benedictions crown her,
 And with us exclaim—"God speed."

Mr. Benedict said:

GENTLEMEN—Our exercises would not be complete if we were to omit mention of the Press. I give you as a final sentiment "The Vermont Press," and I call upon Mr. Hamilton Ormsbee to respond.

HAMILTON ORMSBEE'S SPEECH.

Your Committee cannot have expected from me any history or eulogy of the Vermont press, such as the subject deserves from more familiar and more able hands. My service upon the newspapers of Vermont was long enough to show me that they have a record for service to the best interests of their State which should be recited as a part of the State's history, but which should be told from the standpoint of long and intimate acquaintance. But there is another side of the subject upon which it would be ungracious, in such a company as this, not to say a word. That is the gratitude which Vermonters far from the shadow of their native peaks feel toward the editors who stay at home. What "Eagle" scream he never so eloquently; what "Sun," though it shine for all; what "Tribune," on its tower of judgment, can compare in interest for the son of Vermont with those little papers which the postman brings us on Friday afternoon? How eagerly we read them, from the column of personals upon the fourth page backward to the poem at the beginning of the first. It matters not whether it is the "Rutland Herald," the "Burlington Free Press," the "St. Albans Messenger," the "Montpelier Watchman," the "St. Johnsbury Caledonian," the "Bennington Banner," the "Newport Express," the Windsor or Poultney or Manchester "Journal," the "Woodstock Standard," the "Middlebury Register," the "Barre Enterprise," the "Vergennes Vermonter," the "Randolph Herald and News," the "Brattleboro Reformer" or "Phoenix," the "Fair Haven Era," the "Bellows

Falls Times," the "Brandon Union" or the "Londonderry Sifter"—if that vivacious little journal is still sifting—we read them from editorials to advertisements.

Metropolitan journalists are somewhat given, I believe, to making merry over the items about the reshingling of John Smith's barn or about Widow Conant's rheumatism. But how much they mean to those of us who know John and who remember Mrs. Conant's kindly face with its big rimmed glasses. There is also a metropolitan impression that a Vermont printing office is—well, that it is not exactly a Colorado silver mine. A somewhat varied observation convinces me that the Vermont editor and his city brother stand upon a substantial and glorious equality in that respect. Journalists nowhere become millionaires, except occasionally by marriage on the other side of the East river. But neither do they, in Vermont any more than in New York city, fail to enjoy the substantial blessings of life. I presume there may be in Vermont a few editors who have taken pay for subscriptions in cordwood or eggs, but nobody accuses the Vermont editor of storing his cordwood inside his skull, or using his addled eggs to bespatter his neighbors' reputations with. Then more power to the elbow of the Vermont editor! May his subscription list wax fat and never kick! He knows his public, he serves it faithfully, and he deserves well of it, especially of that part of it far from home, to whom he is village post-office, tavern and sewing society rolled into one.

Mr. Benedict dismissed the company as follows:

GENTLEMEN—This brings to a close the exercises of this occasion. I congratulate you all that it has proved so pleasant and so successful, and I hope that a year from this time we all and many others may have the pleasure of a second and an equally delightful meeting.

BY-LAWS

OF THE

Brooklyn Society of Vermonters.

The Committee appointed to present plans for a permanent organization made their report and recommended the following By-Laws, which were adopted :

ARTICLE 1. This Society shall be called "THE BROOKLYN SOCIETY OF VERMONTERS," and its object shall be the social improvement of its members and a more cordial union of interest and sympathy among Vermonters who reside in Brooklyn or its vicinity.

ART. 2. The officers of the Society shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. There shall also be an Executive Committee consisting of the above named officers, *ex-officio*, and five other persons.

ART. 3. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society, and shall perform such other duties as appropriately belong to such office.

ART. 4. The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President during the absence of that officer.

ART. 5. The Secretary shall keep a faithful record of all the meetings of the Society, attend to correspondence, and notify the members of all meetings and special assessments, if any. At the request

of the President or the Executive Committee, he may provide books, blanks and stationery for his own use as Secretary, and for the Society. He shall also keep a suitable book of record, in which shall be recorded the names of all members of the Society, their birthplace, occupation, and present place of residence, which shall be accessible to all members of the Society.

ART. 6. The Treasurer shall collect all dues, and attend to the disbursements of the money of the Society, paying only those bills which are audited by the Executive Committee, and keeping vouchers for the same; and he shall present to the Society a full report of the receipts and expenditures at the annual meeting, and oftener if called upon by the Executive Committee.

ART. 7. The Executive Committee shall make arrangements for all meetings or entertainments of the Society, and have plenary powers to act in the interim of business meetings. The President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be *ex-officio* members of the Executive, and a majority thereof shall constitute a quorum to do business.

ART. 8. The officers and the Executive Committee shall be elected by ballot, and a plurality shall elect. They shall hold office for one year, and until their successors are elected.

ART. 9. The regular annual meeting of the Society shall be held on the second Wednesday in January for the election of officers and any other business that may come before it; if the election

is not held on that day it may be ordered by the Executive Committee, and when so ordered, a week's notice shall be given to each member of the Society. Special meetings may be held at any time by order of the Executive Committee.

ART. 10. The annual festival shall be held on March 4th, or such other time as the Executive Committee may designate.

ART. 11. The members of this Society shall consist of gentlemen who were born in Vermont, and their sons, and such other gentlemen as, by residence and association, claim to be Vermonters, residing in Brooklyn or vicinity, and who shall have been recommended by the Executive Committee, upon their signing the Constitution and By-Laws and paying the admission fee.

ART. 12. The Executive Committee may, by the concurring votes of two-thirds of all its members, suspend any member from enjoying the privileges of the Society who may be guilty of gross misbehavior, or scandalous or dishonest conduct.

ART. 13. The regular initiation fee shall be two dollars, which sum shall be invariably paid to the Treasurer by each member before he shall be entitled to the privileges of membership; and there shall thereafter be an annual assessment of one dollar.

ART. 14. These By-Laws may be amended at the regular annual meeting, provided the proposed amendment shall have been submitted at least thirty days previously.

Members of the Society.

The following is a list of the members of the Brooklyn Society of Vermonters, who became members at its first meeting, on March 4, 1891, with the name of the Vermont town where they were born, or have lived for such a time as to become Vermonters in spirit.

GEORGE B. ABBOTT, Brookfield, Orange Co.
ALONZO ALFORD, St. Albans, Franklin Co.
JOHN C. ALLEN, Wallingford, Rutland Co.
JOHN J. ALLEN, Burlington, Chittenden Co.
RUFUS C. ALLEN, Wallingford, Rutland Co.
W. E. ANDREWS, Waitsfield, Washington Co.
C. G. ATWOOD, Townshend, Windham Co.
JOSEPH M. BABCOCK, Danville, Caledonia Co.
L. K. BARNES, Brooklyn.
J. A. BARRETT, Woodstock, Windsor Co.
J. HYATT BREWER, West Randolph, Orange Co.
B. L. BENEDICT, Burlington, Chittenden Co.
ROBERT D. BENEDICT, Burlington, Chittenden Co.
THOMAS BISHOP, St. Johnsbury, Caledonia Co.
JAMES BRADY, Bellows Falls, Windham Co.
FRANK M. BRADY, Brooklyn
WILLIAM BRINSMAID, Burlington, Chittenden Co.
ALBERT B. CHANDLER, Randolph, Orange Co.
ALBERT E. CHANDLER, Brooklyn.
FRANK H. CHANDLER, Randolph, Orange Co.
FRANK W. CHANDLER, Brooklyn.
WM. H. COTTON, Bradford, Orange Co.
CHARLES H. CUTTING.
BENJAMIN H. DEWEY, Georgia, Franklin Co.
MARTIN A. DEWEY, Waterbury, Washington Co.
FRANCIS M. EDGERTON, Poultney, Rutland County.

GEORGE FOLLETT, East Berkshire, Franklin Co.
 A. W. FOLLETT, East Berkshire, Franklin Co.
 EDGAR A. FOLLETT, East Berkshire, Franklin Co.
 REV. TIMOTHY P. FROST, Fairlee, Orange Co.
 JOHN F. HENRY, Waterbury, Washington Co.
 ABEL T. HOWARD, Hartford, Windsor Co.
 OMRI F. HIBBARD,
 CHARLES A. HOYT, Burlington, Chittenden Co.
 HENRY E. HUTCHINSON, Windsor, Windsor Co.
 JESSE JOHNSON, Bradford, Orange Co.
 GEORGE H. KELLEY, Chester, Windsor County.
 BRAINERD KELLOGG,
 ROBERT J. KIMBALL, Randolph, Orange Co.
 WM. EUGENE KIMBALL, Brooklyn.
 JOHN G. LOVELY,
 W. C. LOW, Bradford, Orange Co.
 JOHN G. MARSHALL, St. Albans, Franklin Co.
 HENRY C. MATTHEWS, Granby, Essex Co.
 RICHARD A. NEWHALL, Pittsfield, Rutland Co.
 THEOPHILUS OLENA, Grand Isle Co.
 HAMILTON ORMSBEE, Rutland, Rutland Co.
 RICHARD I. PIERSON, Charlotte, Chittenden Co.
 CHAS. POWERS, Sutton, Caledonia Co.
 JAS. H. PLATT, Burlington, Chittenden Co.
 E. A. PRATT.
 WILLIAM M. RAMSDELL, Montpelier, Washington Co.
 WM. C. SPELMAN, Manchester, Bennington Co.
 N. T. SPRAGUE, Mount Holly, Rutland Co.
 H. R. STEELE,
 SANFORD H. STEELE,
 CHAS. A. TINKER, St. Albans, Franklin Co.
 ARTHUR L. TINKER, St. Albans, Franklin Co.
 LEANDER TITUS, Wilmington, Windham Co.
 HENRI TITUS, Wilmington, Windham Co.,
 J. C. TURK.
 PRESCOTT L. WATSON, Wilmington, Windham Co.
 WALTER P. WHEELER, Brandon, Rutland Co.
 GEORGE A. WHITE, Shelburne, Chittenden Co.

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